

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JACKSONVILLE FL
0800 AM EDT FRI APR 09 2010

...DEACTIVATION OF SUNSHINE SENSOR AT JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
EFFECTIVE JULY 1 2010...

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY...JULY 1 2010...THE FOSTER-FOSKETT SUNSHINE SWITCH SENSOR
AT JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WILL BE DEACTIVATED. THE RECORDING
OF DAILY MINUTES OF SUNSHINE...AND THUS ITS REPORTING IN THE LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA /LCD/ PUBLICATION...WILL CEASE WITH THE DEACTIVATION
OF THE SENSOR.

THE FOSTER-FOSKETT SUNSHINE SWITCH SENSOR IS NEARLY 60 YEARS
OLD...OBSOLETE...AND INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT...AND COSTLY...TO MAINTAIN AND
CALIBRATE. IN ADDITION...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CURRENTLY HAS
NO REQUIREMENT TO RECORD MINUTES OF SUNSHINE...AND HAS ALREADY STOPPED
THIS PRACTICE AT NUMEROUS LOCATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

SUNSHINE DATA...IN THE FORM OF RADIATION DATA WHICH CAN BE CONVERTED TO
MINUTES OF SUNSHINE...IS AVAILABLE AT THE NATIONAL CLIMATE DATA CENTER
/NCDC/ FROM SEVERAL NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
/NOAA/ OWNED NETWORKS...INCLUDING THE CLIMATE REFERENCE NETWORK /CRN/
AND SURFACE RADIATION /SURFRAD/ NETWORK. THESE DATA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE
MORE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE THAN THE MINUTES OF SUNSHINE CURRENTLY
OBTAINED BY THE FOSTER-FOSKETT SUNSHINE SENSOR. THE CRN ALONE HAS 114 SITES
ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE SITE CRN SITE CLOSEST TO JACKSONVILLE IS KNOWN AS
GA BRUNSWICK 23 S – CUMBERLAND ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE (STAFFORD FIELD).
IT IS LOCATED 28 MILES NORTHEAST OF JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.
YOU CAN ACCESS THE CRN AT THE WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

[HTTP://WWW.NCDC.NOAA.GOV/CRN/](http://WWW.NCDC.NOAA.GOV/CRN/)

SOLAR RADIATION DATA IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE FLORIDA AUTOMATED
WEATHER NETWORK...FAWN...WITH 35 SITES ACROSS THE SUNSHINE STATE. THE SITE
NEAREST JACKSONVILLE IS LOCATED AT MACCLENNY...29 MILES SOUTHWEST OF
JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. YOU CAN ACCESS FAWN DATA AT THE
WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

[HTTP://FAWN.IFAS.UFL.EDU/](http://FAWN.IFAS.UFL.EDU/)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE DEACTIVATION OF THIS
SENSOR...PLEASE CONTACT:

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